

**NCDOT STATUS REPORT:  
SMART GROWTH COMMISSION'S  
TRANSPORTATION  
RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Environmental Policy & Planning  
Committee**

**April 2, 2003**

# PURPOSE

- Update EPPC on NCDOT activities related to Smart Growth Commission's Transportation Recommendations
- Suggest areas for potential BOT policy

# BACKGROUND

- Integration of transportation and land use
- NCDOT's interest in growth and development
  - environmentally sound
  - fiscally reasonable
  - promote smooth transportation project development process

# **Goal 1: LAND USE AND TRANSPORTATION LINKAGES**

- 1.1 Ensure connections and consistency between land use, transportation, infrastructure and economic development plans
- 1.2 Encourage cooperation and coordination of land use and transportation planning between local, regional and state governments
- 1.3 Local governments and regional entities ... should be permitted to select techniques appropriate to its ... goals

# **Goal 1: LAND USE AND TRANSPORTATION LINKAGES**

- 1.4 Assess the projected impacts of land use and development decisions on the highway system ... prior to development
- 1.5 Update access management and right-of-way policies and practices in coordination with existing land use concerns ...

# **Goal 1: LAND USE AND TRANSPORTATION LINKAGES**

- 1.6 Create a program for concurrent and coordinated land use, transportation, air quality modeling and planning
- 1.7 Prevent encroachment into proposed rights-of-way for rail and road corridors in collaboration with local governments

# GOAL 1 ACTIVITIES

- **Transportation Planning Law**
  - Land Use Planning requirement
  - Transportation Plan vs. Thoroughfare Plan
- **RPO Implementation**
- **MPO Consolidation Legislation**
- **SWP geographic organization**
- **DOT/DENR/Commerce Secretarial Council**
- **State Long Range Plan (NCMIN)**
- **Access Management Report**
- **Driveway Manual**
- **Modeling Unit**
- **Air Quality Roundtable**

## **Goal 2: FOCUS TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENTS**

- 2.1 Employ 'balanced maintenance'
- 2.2 Focus or target transportation monies
- 2.3 Distribute transportation funds contingent on acceptable and appropriate smart growth planning
- 2.4 Develop clear project selection criteria and an open, transparent process to ensure consistent and comprehensible programming



## **Goal 2: FOCUS TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENTS**

- 2.5 State transportation monies should be flexible and available for multi-modal projects, operations and programs
- 2.6 Make regional allocations of funds predictable so that planning can be coordinated, prioritized and budgeted
- 2.7 Create a 'multi-modal' transportation fund
- 2.8 Safety, community and environmental concerns, air quality and traffic congestion must be part of the Equity Formula

# GOAL 2 ACTIVITIES

- Highway Trust Fund Study Committee
- Increases in maintenance & public transportation budgets
- Cash management legislation
- North Carolina: Moving Ahead!
- State Long Range Plan

# Goal 3: DEVELOP MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS

- 3.1 Needs assessment for multi-modal facilities and programs should be required for new or expanded highways and bridges
- 3.2 Develop multi-modal centers or facilities to meet the needs of every county

# Goal 3: DEVELOP MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS

- 3.3 Improve, integrate and expand inter- and intra-regional transportation modes
- 3.4 Promote creation of multi-modal systems

# GOAL 3 ACTIVITIES

- Transportation Planning Law
- Bicycle and pedestrian mainstreaming
- Budget recommendations
- Cash Management legislation
- North Carolina: Moving Ahead!
- TND Subdivision Guidelines

# **Goal 4: ENSURE TRANSPORTATION INTERCONNECTIVITY**

- 4.1 Revisit Highway Trust Fund goals to ensure the goals are sufficiently flexible to meet the diverse needs of North Carolina's regions -- urban and rural
- 4.2 Incorporate dense networks of collector streets ... to accommodate planned growth areas for urban and suburban transportation

# GOAL 4 ACTIVITIES

- State Long Range Plan (NCMIN)
- Highway Trust Fund Study Committee
- Access Management Report

## **Goal 5: ENCOURAGE REGIONALISM**

- 5.1 Encourage consolidation of existing regional agencies into one agency per metropolitan area to create a single land use, infrastructure and transportation planning entity
- 5.2 Coordinate boundaries so that transportation planning regions and air quality attainment areas are the same



# GOAL 5 ACTIVITIES

- MPO Consolidation Legislation
- RPO Implementation

# Goal 6: EMPHASIZE PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

- 6.1 Improve communication through early and continuous involvement to help develop a clear community vision and to lead to faster implementation of better projects

# GOAL 6 ACTIVITIES

- Merger 01 Permitting Process Improvement
- SWP geographic organization
- Expansion of Office of Human Environment

# RECOMMENDATIONS

- Adoption of Access Management Report
- State Long Range Plan
  - Investment scenarios
  - NCMIN
  - Policy Recommendations
- Transportation Planning Law
  - Land Use Plan acceptability
  - Inter-jurisdictional cooperation
- Conservation development standards

# SUMMARY

- Legislative action needed before NCDOT could implement all of the Commission recommendations
- Substantial overlapping interest in goals
  - Integrated, balanced transportation system
- NCDOT is implementing legislative, policy and administrative changes to support many of the overlapping goals